

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

March 7, 2019

Ms. Jennifer Shute Sr Mgr Safety Recall Execution Chrysler (FCA US LLC) 800 Chrysler Drive CIMS 482-00-91 Auburn Hills, MI 48326 NEF-150SS

19V-068

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Transmission Software May Cause Abrupt Downshift

Dear Ms. Shute:

This letter serves to acknowledge Chrysler (FCA US LLC)'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

### Makes/Models/Model Years:

FIAT/SPIDER/2017-2019

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 5, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-068

**Components:** 

POWER TRAIN: AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION: CONTROL MODULE (TCM, PCM)

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 8,933

# **Problem Description:**

Chrysler (FCA US LLC) is recalling certain 2017-2019 Fiat Spider 124 vehicles equipped with automatic transmissions. Due to incorrect programming of the Transmission Control Module (TCM), certain conditions may cause the vehicle to unexpectedly downshift and abruptly decelerate.

## **Consequence:**

If a downshift occurs, the vehicle will suddenly decrease speed, increasing the risk of a crash.

# Remedy:

Chrysler will notify owners, and dealers will update the TCM software, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin March 27, 2019. Owners may contact Chrysler customer service at 1-800-853-1403. Chrysler's number for this recall is V20.

#### Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



We have received Chrysler (FCA USA LLC) proposed owner notification letter and have approved it for distribution.

NHTSA is missing critical, required information for this safety recall. This information must be supplied through the NHTSA Recalls Portal within 5 working days of confirming its accuracy:

- A statement that the defect or noncompliance can cause a vehicle crash without prior warning; or a description of whatever prior warning may occur, and a statement that if this warning is not heeded, a vehicle crash can occur (49 CFR 577.5 (f)(1)).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Shiver who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-7401, or by email at sarah.shiver@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kareem Habib

Acting Chief, Recall Management Division

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Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

